

\$79,282,000 (composed of \$20,000,000 from administrative accounts for operation and support, \$6,346,000 from the trust accountability account, \$15,168,000 from the field operations account, and \$37,768,000 from the historical accounting account) shall be transferred to the Indian Health Service and shall be available for clinical services: *Provided*, That none of the funds made available by this Act may be used for the proposed trust reform reorganization of the Bureau of Indian Affairs or the Office of Special Trustee: *Provided further*, That".

#### PARITY AMONG COUNTRIES PARTY TO THE NORTH AMERICAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Finance Committee be discharged from further action on S. Res. 119, and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 119) expressing the sense of the Senate that there should be parity among the countries that are parties to the North American Free Trade Agreement with respect to the personal exemption allowance for merchandise purchased abroad by returning residents, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements regarding this matter be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 119) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

#### S. RES. 119

Whereas the personal exemption allowance is a vital component of trade and tourism;

Whereas many border communities and retailers depend on customers from both sides of the border;

Whereas a United States citizen traveling to Canada or Mexico for less than 48 hours is exempt from paying duties on the equivalent of \$200 worth of merchandise on return to the United States, and for trips over 48 hours United States citizens have an exemption of up to \$800 worth of merchandise;

Whereas a Canadian traveling in the United States is given no exemption for trips of less than 24 hours;

Whereas a Canadian traveling in the United States is allowed a duty-free personal exemption allowance equivalent to, in Canadian currency—

(1) \$50 worth of merchandise, if the trip is over 24 hours but not over 48 hours;

(2) \$200 worth of merchandise, if the trip is over 48 hours but not more than 7 days; and

(3) \$750 worth of merchandise, if the trip is for over 7 days;

Whereas Mexico has a 2-tiered personal exemption allowance for its returning resi-

dents, set at the equivalent of \$50 worth of merchandise for residents returning by car and the equivalent of \$300 worth of merchandise for residents returning by plane;

Whereas Canadian and Mexican retail businesses have an unfair competitive advantage over many American businesses because of the disparity between the personal exemption allowances among the 3 countries;

Whereas the State of Maine legislature passed a resolution urging action on this matter;

Whereas the disparity in personal exemption allowances creates a trade barrier by making it difficult for Canadians and Mexicans to shop in American-owned stores without facing high additional costs;

Whereas the United States entered into the North American Free Trade Agreement with Canada and Mexico with the intent of phasing out tariff barriers among the 3 countries; and

Whereas it violates the spirit of the North American Free Trade Agreement for Canada and Mexico to maintain restrictive personal exemption allowance policies that are not reciprocal: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of the Senate that the United States Trade Representative and the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, should continue discussions with officials of the Governments of Canada and Mexico to achieve parity by harmonizing the personal exemption allowance structure of the 3 NAFTA countries at or above United States exemption levels.

#### NATIONAL HOUSING ACT

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. 1636, introduced earlier today by Senator REED of Rhode Island.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1636) to preserve the ability of the Federal Housing Administration to insure mortgages under sections 238 and 519 of the National Housing Act.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read the third time, passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The bill (S. 1636) was read the third time and passed, as follows:

#### S. 1636

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

That notwithstanding the first paragraph under the heading "FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION—GENERAL AND SPECIAL RISK PROGRAM ACCOUNT" in title II of Division K of the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (Public Law 108-7), during the fiscal year 2003, commitments to guarantee loans to carry out the purposes of sections 238 and 519 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-

3 and 1735c), shall not exceed a loan principal of \$25,000,000,000, and shall remain available until all funds are expended.

#### ORDERS FOR MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2003

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 2 p.m. Monday, September 22. I further ask that following the prayer and the pledge, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, the Journal of the proceedings be approved to date, the time of the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then resume consideration of H.R. 2691, the Interior Appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### PROGRAM

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, for the information of all Senators, on Monday, the Senate will resume debate on H.R. 2691, the Interior Appropriations bill. There are currently five amendments pending on this bill. The bill managers will be here Monday to receive additional amendments. Any votes ordered with respect to amendments to the Interior Appropriations bill on Monday afternoon will be stacked to occur at 5:30 p.m. Monday.

In addition to amendments to the Interior Appropriations bill, the Senate may also vote on any executive calendar items that can be cleared for action. Therefore, Senators should expect the possibility of several rollcall votes beginning at 5:30 Monday evening.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 2 P.M. MONDAY

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 11:10 a.m., adjourned until Monday, September 22, 2003, at 2 p.m.

#### NOMINATIONS

Executive nominations received by the Senate September 18, 2003:

##### DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

KENNETH M. KARAS, OF NEW YORK, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK, VICE ALLEN G. SCHWARTZ, DECEASED.

##### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

KIRK VAN TINE, OF VIRGINIA, TO BE DEPUTY SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION, VICE MICHAEL P. JACKSON, RESIGNED.

##### IN THE NAVY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY TO THE GRADE INDICATED WHITE ASSIGNED TO A POSITION OF IMPORTANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 601:

##### To be vice admiral

REAR ADM. DAVID C. NICHOLS JR., 0000